GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1901
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2000
RECOVERY OF PENALTY
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recovered Rs. 40 crores penalty from M/s Ranbaxy for over-charge on Revital;

(b) whether the Revital has been approved as food supplement

(c) if so, the name of officers involved in supporting the over-charging on Revital and granting approval to Revital as food supplement;

(d) whether matter has been investigated by any Government agencies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SH SHANMUGAM)

(a) No, Sir.

(b)&(c) Revital is a product containing Gingseng with vitamins and minerals. In its meeting held in February, 1995, the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), which is a statutory body under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, recommended that Gingseng may be termed as Food for Special Dietary uses or in the preparation of therapeutic foods without medicinal claims. Subsequently, the Licensing Authority in Himachal Pradesh has granted license under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955 to M/s. Ranbaxy Laboratories Limited, Paonta Sahib, for manufacture of `Revital` capsule.

(d)&(e) In November, 1992, price was fixed for Revital Capsules under Drug Price Control Order, 1987.However, M/s. RanbaxyLabs Limited informed the Government that theyhad stopped manufacture of the product. Matter was investigated at the time and no case of overcharging was established.